

GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

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15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

MARCH 1, 2007



PHOTO BY LINDA SIADYS

The recent snow was the perfect consistency for making snowballs and snow figures. Ron Ebisawa (13), left, and Dan Ebisawa (9) of Ridge Road rose to the challenge. Both are students at Robert Goddard French Immersion School. For more photos, see page 12.

Balloon Demonstration Sparks Mixed Reaction of Neighbors

by Laura Schwartzman

Greenbelt Station's developer flew six balloons at the Greenbelt Metro station site on February 17 to simulate the height dimensions of planned development there. The operation drew mixed reactions from public officials in nearby communities and their constituents.

North College Park residents are among the most vocal opponents of the GB Development Company's Greenbelt Station project, which according to the developer's website at www.GreenbeltStation.com, is a 240-acre concept offering "2,200 residential units, 1.2 million square feet of office, 1.1 million square feet of retail and entertainment, 300 hotel rooms and a 115,000 square foot neighborhood retail center" built around the current station.

The project will integrate Metro and MARC rail service. The company estimates the project will take about 10 years to complete, with construction starting this year.

Some buildings may be approved up to 18 stories high, a prospect drawing harsh criticism from nearby households in North College Park. College Park had originally supported the Greenbelt Metro Sector Plan which had placed greater restrictions on height and other development.

Community Feedback

"There's a huge number of people that are going to be visually impacted by this," said College Park City Councilmember John Krouse of District 1 who lives on 53rd Avenue. "It's going to cause shading, light impact . . . it's going to dramatically increase the amount of reflected

railroad noise."

Krouse said he gets emails each day from concerned residents expressing "shock and dismay." He insists that shading, lights and noise pollution will drive down property values and hurt the area.

"So far, nobody's told me what the benefits for my neighborhood will be," he said.

Greenbelt Assistant Planning Director Terri Hruby points out that "developers are working closely with College Park" and will take into consideration community feedback before revising their plans.

"We deferred a lot to College Park on the height limitations," she said, adding that if developers gain the support of College Park they will pursue the plans with the Greenbelt City Council.

Supporters argue that Greenbelt Station would be an environmentally-friendly community centered around public transportation which would encourage people to drive less. County Councilmember Thomas E. Dernoga, chair of the Transportation, Housing and Environment Committee, said the project will maximize use of Metro stations and help the county battle climate change. Dernoga represents College Park.

Dernoga added that while the balloon test was mostly effective in giving residents an idea of the project's height, the developer floated three of the six balloons at heights that were never approved. This action alarmed residents. Dernoga said some approved heights in the conceptual plan still need

See **REACTION**, page 6

Officials Check Out Balloon Test

Greenbelt City Councilmembers Leta Mach and Konrad Herling and City Manager Michael McLaughlin turned out for the balloon test on Saturday, February 17 to get an on-site idea of the visual impact of the proposed high-rise buildings for the Greenbelt Station development. The demonstration was arranged by Petrie Ross Ventures, developers of retail properties.

According to McLaughlin, six balloons were raised to designate four 18-story buildings and two 12-story buildings. The participants walked from the Greenbelt Metro Station over to North College Park to the intersection of Lackawanna St. and 53rd Ave. (the intersection closest to the station).

Not surprisingly, balloons were visible along 53rd Avenue, though not all at the same time. McLaughlin expects there will be some objection from residents of this neighborhood.

"From Greenbelt's perspective," McLaughlin reported, I drove around and looked at the situation from various points. "The balloons were very visible from Capitol Office Park and visible but not intrusive from the area of Springhill Lane and Springhill Drive (the shopping center),"

See **COUNCIL**, page 6

County Seeks Cities' Input On Conservation Updates

by Barbara Hopkins

Staffers in the Prince George's County Environmental Planning Section, a subsection of the county planning department, have asked for comments from the City of Greenbelt and other municipalities and entities on legislative updates the county is proposing to its Woodland Conservation Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations. City staff has been briefed on the proposals and the Greenbelt City Council considered the topic at its meeting on February 12.

Implement Green Plan

The county legislation would codify means to implement the Green Infrastructure Master Plan, a 20-year plan adopted in 2005 to conserve the county's natural resources. Greenbelt's Assistant Director of Planning Terri Hruby says this is an important step in providing a framework and clarifying existing strategies toward that goal.

Among other changes, the proposed legislation would reduce forest and habitat fragmentation and ensure that preservation and mitigation areas are connected. It would also prioritize habitat cover types, protect and restore

native species and increase the emphasis on quality vegetation for on-site preservation. A copy of the master plan is available in the Reference Section of the Greenbelt library.

Proposed changes to the Woodland Conservation Ordinance would expand its scope to include wildlife conservation principles and to protect wildlife habitat. The name proposed for the new legislation is the Woodland Conservation and Wildlife Habitat Ordinance.

Of particular interest to cities such as Greenbelt is a provision to ensure that mitigation efforts support local conservation plans. Staff notes in the council meeting agenda comments stated that a number of goals supported by the city could be achieved through these legislative updates. Yet councilmembers also found areas of deficiency in the proposed changes.

Fines and Fees

To encourage compliance with the law, fines for violating the ordinance would be increased

See **CONSERVE**, page 10

Artful Afternoon Features Tall Tales, Bird Feeders

The next Artful Afternoon on Sunday, March 4 from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Community Center will feature a Wild West Tall Tales performance by the Children's Theater Association and an art project where participants will make bird feeders to take home.

From 1 to 3 p.m., people can make their own wild bird feeders in a hands-on craft, using recycled materials. The workshop will be led by Community Center Artist-in-residence Jean Newcomb, who is also the founder of Greenbelt's Green Man Festival.

All are invited to gather 'round the campfire at 3 p.m. for hilarious stories with "Wild West Tall Tales." Paul Bunyan solves a new problem with his enormous brains and brawn Pecos Bill sad-



Participants in this weekend's Artful Afternoon program will be treated to a performance by the Children's Theater Association.

dles up for a daring adventure and Annie Christmas saves the day. With foot-stomping music, colorful costumes and silliness galore, this show inspires young people of all ages to go out and accomplish their own impossible feats! "Wild West Tall Tales" is presented by the Children's Theater Association (CTA), a

See **ARTFUL**, page 6

What Goes On

Sunday, March 4

1 to 5 p.m., Artful Afternoon, Community Center

Tuesday, March 6

7 p.m., Arts Advisory Board Meeting, Community Center

Wednesday, March 7

8 p.m., City Council Worksession, Greenway Center Management (stakeholder), Community Center

Thursday, March 8

7:30 p.m., GHI Board Meeting, GHI Board Room

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

Arts Advisory Board To Meet on March 6

The Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board will meet on Tuesday, March 6 at 7 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center.

For more information contact Nicole DeWald, staff liaison at ndewald@greenbeltmd.gov or 240-542-2057.

GAC March Show Is Urinetown

Starting March 9, the Greenbelt Arts Center will present “Urinetown: the Musical,” based on the book by Greg Kotis, with music and lyrics by Mark Holman, directed and produced by Bill Tchakirides, musical direction by Joe Biddle and choreography by Richelle “Rikki” Howie.

Surprises and laughs abound in this hit tale of greed, love and revolution! A depletion of the earth’s water supply leads to a government-enforced ban on private toilets. The privilege to pee is regulated by a single, malevolent corporation, “Urine Good Company,” which forces the poor citizens to pay ever-escalating fees. With musical numbers that borrow shamelessly from Broadway classics, Urinetown is an intelligent musical that simultaneously pokes fun at and pays homage to Broadway.

Performances will be held at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights from March 9 through March 31, with two Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. on March 18 and 25. For tickets, reservations or information visit the website at www.greenbeltartscenter.org or call 301-441-8770.

Genealogy Society To Meet March 6

On Tuesday, March 6 from 7 to 9 p.m. the Prince George’s County Genealogical Society will gather at the Greenbelt library. There will be a brief meeting at 7 p.m. on upcoming society activities followed by a presentation by Thomas Shawker on “The 19th Century Federal Non-population Schedules.”

Those attending should park in the rear and use the ground-level entrance. There will be a short refreshment break between the meeting and the guest speaker. Guests are always welcome.

Youth Orchestra Concert at ERHS

The College Park Youth Orchestra will perform in concert on Sunday, March 4 at 7 p.m. at the Eleanor Roosevelt High School auditorium. This is a free concert, open to the public. Conductor Kenneth Whitley will lead the orchestra’s young string players in performing movements from Bach’s Brandenburg Concerto No. 3 and Holst’s Brook Green Suite.

The College Park Youth Orchestra is a program of the College Park Arts Exchange and is supported in part by Gailes’ Violin Shop and by a grant from the Prince George’s Arts Council. For more information visit the website at www.cpyo.net, email info@cpae.org or call 301-927-3013.

Computer Club Meets Thursday

The Greenbelt Computer Club will hold its next monthly meeting on Thursday, March 8 at the Community Center in Room 202 (Theater Rehearsal Room) from 7 to 8:30 p.m. All are welcome.

Community Events

At the Library Storytimes

Tuesday, March 6, 10:30 a.m. Cuddletime for newborns to 17 months with caregiver; limit 15 babies.

Wednesday, March 7, 10:30 and 11 a.m. Toddlertime for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver; limit 15 children.

Thursday, March 8, 10:30 a.m. Drop-In Storytime for ages 3 to 5; limit 20 children.

ERHS to Hold Free Pre-festival Concerts

In preparing for the upcoming County High School Band and Orchestra Festivals the Eleanor Roosevelt High School instrumental music department will offer two free concerts as a dress rehearsal and premiere of the pieces to be played at the two county music festivals. On Thursday, March 8 at 7:30 p.m., four award-winning Roosevelt bands will perform a Band Festival Concert. The four bands all received superior rating at the 2006 county festival.

An Orchestra Festival Concert is scheduled for Tuesday, March 13 at 7:30 p.m.; a countywide festival will be held March 31.

The groups playing in the orchestra festival include 126 ERHS students, 25 of them Greenbelt residents.

The music to be played and judged at the county festivals will be presented at the two concerts for parents and the community; everyone is invited to attend to support the ERHS band and orchestra students.

Foundation Grant Deadline Is Near

Organizations, associations and cooperatives are reminded that the deadline to apply for a grant from the Greenbelt Community Foundation is March 15. Grants ranging from \$500 to \$2,500 will be awarded to fund projects that will enhance the experience of living in Greenbelt.

The Foundation’s mission is to maintain, improve and enrich the quality of life throughout the city. The Foundation is especially interested in new initiatives and specific projects that will enhance the cultural, artistic, recreational, social or environmental vitality of Greenbelt. Unless directly related to a project, organizational operating support usually will not be considered for funding.

Completed applications are due no later than March 15. Successful proposals will be funded July 1, 2007.

To request an application form or to receive more information, email the Foundation at info@greenbeltfoundation.net.

Utopia Film Festival Volunteers Sought

Plans are underway for the third annual Utopia Film Festival, to be produced this fall by GATE (Greenbelt Access Television). The film festival planning committee is looking for new volunteers. Those interested are asked to come to the next planning meeting Thursday, March 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the GATE Studios at the Greenbelt Community Center. For more information call 240-602-4113.

Explore Sixth Sense

Readers may have a sense of deja vu about the Explorations Sixth Sense presentation. The topic, originally planned for mid-February was rescheduled due to inclement weather.

On Friday, March 9 Explorations Unlimited will host a presentation by Fred and Dorothy Baluch on awakening one’s sixth sense.

Greenbelters Fred and Dorothy are active seniors with Greenbelt Community Center programs.

The Baluchs will discuss and lead practice in how to meditate, incubate a dream and see with one’s eyes closed, how to breathe, self-healing, how to keep the mind open and be willing to do whatever it takes and more.

Explorations Unlimited is held every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Community Center in the senior classroom, Room 114. Everyone is welcome to attend and questions are encouraged. Call 301-397-2208 for more information.

Help Remove Invasive Plants

Join in on Saturday March 3 at 11 a.m. in the Sweetgum Picnic Area of Greenbelt Park for a hands-on nature preservation activity and to learn about native and non-native plants.

This program will be held the first Saturday of every month, come rain or shine. Wear appropriate clothing and bring work gloves and a lunch or snack.

This is a partnership between the Greenbelt Park and the University of Maryland. Greenbelt Park’s entrance is located between Kenilworth Avenue and Baltimore-Washington Parkway at 6565 Greenbelt Road. For more information call Greenbelt Park at 301-344-3944 or visit the web page at <http://www.nps.gov/gree/>.

Make Plans Now For Local Camping

Reservations for the Greenbelt Park Campground are now available. Greenbelt Park offers 174 campsites and a safe affordable way to see Washington, D.C. For local residents, Greenbelt Park is a great place for a weekend getaway in an urban oasis. For more information on Greenbelt Park call 301-344-3944 or 877-444-6777 or visit the National Park Service website at <http://www.nps.gov/gree> and use the campground reservation link. There is a fee.

Discover Still Creek At Greenbelt Park

The Friends of Still Creek invite discovery of Greenbelt Park and the Still Creek Watershed. Learn how to help in the protection and restoration of Still Creek and the Anacostia River.

Meet at the Greenbelt Park Ranger Station classroom on Monday, March 5 at 7 p.m. The Ranger station is located near the campground about 1.5 miles from the park entrance. RSVP to KaSe Levendosky at 202-962-3374 or email klevendosky@mwkog.org. Greenbelt Park is located at 6565 Greenbelt Road between Kenilworth Avenue and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway. The Greenbelt Park website address is www.nps.gov/gree.

Garden Club Meets

The annual meeting of the Greenbelt Garden Club will be held on Thursday, March 8 at 7 p.m. at the Greenbelt Police Station. Garden plots will be assigned at that time on a first-come basis.

For more information call 301-595-5474.

GHI Notes

Tuesday, March 6, 7 p.m., Member and Community Relations Committee meeting

7 p.m., Green Ribbon Task Force Committee meeting

Wednesday, March 7, 7:30 p.m., Greener Greenbelt Initiative Baseline and Benchmark Working Group meeting

Thursday, March 8, 7:30 p.m., Board of Directors meeting

Saturday, March 10, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Board Strategic Planning meeting

Monday, March 12, 7 p.m., Greener Greenbelt Initiative Charter Planning Working Group

Tuesday, March 13, 8:30 a.m., Yard Lines Ad Hoc Committee meeting

Wednesday, March 14, 7:30 p.m., Companion Animal Committee meeting

7:30 p.m., Architectural Review Committee meeting

All events will take place in the administration building. Committee and board meetings are open meetings. Members are encouraged to attend.

Dr. Granite’s Office Holds Open House

On Wednesday, March 14 from 4 to 7 p.m. the Physician’s Family Practice of Dr. David Granite will hold an open house. The office is at Roosevelt Center. For information call 301-474-2145.

GIVES Offers Free Income Tax Filing

GIVES is sponsoring a program to do free preparation of federal and state income tax forms for Greenbelt residents at Springhill Lake Recreation Center. To qualify for the service the taxpayer’s total income must be below \$25,000 for singles without dependents or below \$32,000 for those with two or more exemptions. Help is available between noon and 4:30 p.m. every Sunday in March.

Call GIVES at 301-507-6580 (office hours are Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m.) to make an appointment or just drop in.

AIMCO Open House On Changes at SHL

An Open House is scheduled to take place on Monday, March 19 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Leasing Office, 6220 Springhill Drive in Springhill Lake.

Property management staff and a person involved with the redevelopment project will be available to answer general questions from the public about the redevelopment of Springhill Lake, according to Victor Bellavia of the property management staff.

A public information meeting originally scheduled for March 23 at the SHL Recreation Center has been canceled.

Greenbriar Holds Annual Meeting

The Greenbriar Condominiums Phase I Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 6 at 7 p.m. in Greenbriar’s Terrace Room. For further information call 301-441-1096, ext. 11.

Share the news of your organization’s meetings, activities and achievements with your neighbors.

GREENBELT BASEBALL



Registration for New Players

Greenbelt Youth Center

Saturday, Mar. 3

10 a.m. to noon

T-Ball

(5-6 year olds)

Coach-Pitch / Machine-Pitch

(7-8 year olds)

and

Major League Players

Born 8-1-94 thru 7-31-02

for info: call Greg Fisanich 301-441-4647

Fees:

Resident \$30

Sibling \$20

Non-Resident \$60

Sibling \$30

T-Ball

\$30 per player

Copy of birth certificate is required.

VOLUNTEER COACHES NEEDED

Clinic for NEW Major League Players

Sat., March 10 from 10 a.m. to noon

at McDonald Field 7 Court Southway

Obituaries

Hazel M. Sides

Former Greenbelter Hazel M. Sides, 95, Bouchelle Drive, New Smyrna Beach, Fla., died at her residence Friday, February 2, 2007.

Born in Ayden, N.C., Mrs Sides lived in Greenbelt for many years. She and her husband Edward B. Sides, Sr., moved to New Smyrna Beach in 1961. After her husband's death in 1975 she returned to Greenbelt, traveling to New Smyrna Beach until 1990, when she became a permanent resident there.

Mrs. Sides was a historical editor for the National Archives. She was an active member of Greenbelt Baptist Church for 13 years. In New Smyrna Beach she was a member of First Baptist Church.

Her hobbies included cooking, playing bridge, travel, reading and history, crossword puzzles and handwork, especially knitting and crocheting.

Mrs. Sides was preceded in death by her husband and daughter Linda Goodenough of Greenbelt.

She is survived by son Edward B. Sides, Jr., of New Smyrna Beach; daughters Robin Black and Peggy Peake of New Smyrna and Kathryn Dellenbach, Buck Hill Falls, Pa.; 16 grandchildren, four of whom grew up in Greenbelt, Glayde Goodenough, Jr., of Lanham; Gigi Goodenough Shemberger of Glenn Dale; Kitzy Goodenough Smith of Easton, Md., and Robert Goodenough of Silver Spring; 26 great grandchildren; sister Mary Woolerton, Havelock, N.C.; and two nephews.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 6 at Settle-Wilders New Smyrna Beach Chapel. Interment was in Edgewater-New Smyrna Cemetery.

Expressions of sympathy in her memory may be sent to Hospice of Volusia/Flagler, 3800 Woodbriar Trail, Port Orange, FL 32129 or to the Baptist Church Building Fund, 214 Sams Avenue, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168.



Catholic
Community
of Greenbelt
MASS

Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building

Baha'i Faith

"Lack of equality between men and women is a cause of human dissension. So long as humankind remains unequally divided in right ad importance between male and female, no unity can be established."
— Abdu'l-Bahá

Greenbelt Baha'i Community
P.O. Box 245
Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-345-2918 301-220-3160
www.bahai.org www.us.bahai.org

“About Islam” Series Held at Paint Branch

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church will host two multimedia presentations by and interactions with members of the Rumi Club of College Park (an active part of the Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Association) on Sundays, March 4 and April 1, at 2 p.m. each afternoon. Paint Branch co-minister Jacob B. ten Hove will moderate the free events, to which the public is invited.

The topic this Sunday, March 4, is “Dissociating Islam from the Middle East” led by Eral Hitaj (graduate student in economics at UM). He will open a window of comparison between political and social Islam and address areas of common misperception stemming from the erroneous identification of Middle Eastern social traits with Islamic practices on topics such as women’s rights, democracy, etc.

On April 1, “Diversity in Islam” will be addressed by Faruk Baysal (Ph.D. candidate in economics at George Washington University). He will explore the place of diversity in Islam from both a theoretical and historical viewpoint, drawing mostly but not exclusively, on the Ottoman experience.

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church is located at 3215 Powder Mill Road in Adelphi. (website: www.pbuuc.org; phone 301-936-3666)

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville/Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community
March 4, 10 a.m.
“Vibrant Imperfection”
by Barbara W. ten Hove, co-minister
with Pat Tompkins, worship associate
— Barbara W. and Jacob B. ten Hove, co-ministers

Greenbelt Community Church
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Hillside & Crescent Roads
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbelt.com/gccucc/
Sunday Worship
10:15 a.m.
Daniel Hamlin, Pastor
"A church of the open mind, the warm heart,
the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH

Corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads 301-474-4212
www.greenbeltbaptist.org greenbelt.baptist@verizon.net

Dr. Mark Johnson, Pastor

Sundays:
Traditional Service 8:30 am
Sunday School 9:45 am
Contemporary Service 11:00 am

Weds. Worship: 7:00 pm
(Adult Bible Study/Prayer & Children's Ministry)

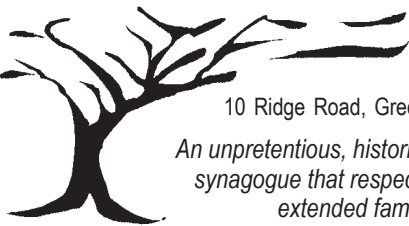
Helping People Connect with Christ and His Family through Loving Service

Learn
About
Islam

GIVE THANKS

Every breath that we breathe is a blessing from God and we learn from the Prophet Solomon (peace be upon him) to recognize these blessings each day. The Holy Qur'an tells us how he never forgot to be thankful to God. He is quoted to have said, "This is by the grace of my Lord, to test me whether I am grateful or ungrateful! And if any is grateful, it is (a gain) for his own soul; but if any is ungrateful, truly my Lord is free of all needs, supreme in honor."
— The Holy Qur'an, 27:40

Remember to count your blessings. For more information about gratefulness from an Islamic perspective, call 301-982-9463 or email info@searchislam.org or visit www.searchislam.org.



Congregation
Mishkan Torah

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4223

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Shabbat services: Friday evening at 8:00 PM, except 1st Friday of the month, i.e. family service at 7:30 PM. Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM. Educational programs for children K–12 and for adults. Combined innovative full family educational program for parents and children. Conversion classes. Concert choir. Social Action program. Opportunity for leadership development. Moderate, flexible dues. High holiday seating for visitors. Sisterhood. Men's Club. Other Social Activities. Interfaith families are welcome.

Historic synagogue dually affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation

Dems Annual Social Night Out Is March 16

Each year on the third week-end of March the Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club hosts its Annual Social Night Out. On Friday, March 16 members and friends of the club will gather at the Beijing Restaurant in Roosevelt Center for dinner at 6 p.m. Then the group will proceed to the Greenbelt Arts Center for an 8 p.m. performance of “Urinetown,” an off-beat comedy.

Prospective members are welcome to participate. Tickets are available from Treasurer Sylvia Lewis at revs.lew@verizon.net or from Ed Terry, president, at 301-386-0762.

The group’s next meeting will be held on Friday, April 20 and the scheduled speaker is Terry Speigner, chair of the Prince George’s County Democratic Central Committee.

Guarneri String Quartet Rehearses

The Guarneri String Quartet will hold an open rehearsal on Monday, March 5 at 7 p.m. Now in its 25th year at the UM School of Music, this legendary quartet continues its tradition of on-campus, open rehearsals in Gildenhorn Recital Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410
Rev. Dr. Paul C. Kim, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am
Prayer Meeting Sun. 9:45 am
Senior Computer Class Mon. 2:00 pm
Handicapped Accessible Come As You Are!

Lenten Bible Study – “The Road to Victory” on Wednesdays at 7:15 pm
Good Friday Service April 6 at 7:30 pm; Easter Sunrise Service on Apr. 8 at Greenbelt Lake; Easter Worship Service at Mowatt Church at 11 am

St. George's Episcopal/
Anglican Church
7010 Glenn Dale Road
(Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)
301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | www.stgeo.org

Sundays: 8:00 am Simple, quiet Mass
9:00 am Christian education for all ages
10:00 am Sung Mass with organ and folk music, ASL interpreted
1:30 pm Signed Mass (last Sunday of each month only)
Wednesdays: 7:00 pm Simple, quiet Mass

An inclusive congregation!

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111

Sun. 8 & 10:30am Worship Service
Sermon Topic: "The Road of Danger"
9:15am Sunday School/Bible Study
Wed. 12:15 & 7:30pm Mid-week Lenten Service

Fax 301-220-0694 • E-mail myholycross@verizon.net

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322

Mass Schedule:
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.
Pastor: Fr. Walter J. Tappe
Pastoral Associate: Fr. R. Scott Hurd



Bible Study & Worship

9:30 “Good Morning!!” Coffee and Snacks
10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Worship

Greenbelt Youth Center
99 Centerway (Behind the Community Center)

Pastor Lou Redd
301-474-4499 410-340-8242 (cell)

...living life together

REACTION continued from page 1

to be reduced.

“Our county has done a poor job on maximizing Metro stations for transit-oriented development,” said Dernoga. “My goal will remain the same: to support transit-oriented development at Metro Stations in Prince George’s County while trying to balance the density and building heights with the impact on existing residential communities.

“This is true for all stations, not just the Greenbelt Station,” he added.

Economic Benefits

The project also promises economic benefits to the surrounding areas. GB Development Company’s website claims that Greenbelt Station will establish 7,054 permanent jobs and 9,526 temporary construction jobs over the next decade, as well as an estimated \$2.75 billion of direct revenues for Greenbelt through 2034.

“From a regional perspective, it could be an interesting way to bring jobs and development to this part of the county,” said Rob Goodspeed, a student in the University of Maryland’s Master of Community Planning program and editor of the local development blog RethinkCollegePark.net. Goodspeed said few residents were aware of the demo and that most spectators were public officials and activists.

“But residents are understandably concerned that the thing is growing on them,” he said. “For

it to be realized in the way that’s successful, we hope that they take the neighbors’ concerns into consideration. From a planning perspective it’s an ideal location for compact development,” he said, noting the land’s proximity to the Beltway and rail services.

Goodspeed said the balloons did a good job of making residents more aware of how development may visually affect their property but stressed that “they’re not ideal . . . nothing can exactly replicate a physical building.”

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he said. Otherwise the balloons were not visible in Springhill Lake and Boxwood, he reported.

Others in the group were a number of College Park council members, staff and residents including Mayor Stephen A. Brayman, John Krouse, Karen Hampton, Bob Catlin, Dave Milligan, and new Councilmember Stephanie Stulich. County Council member Thomas E. Dernoga was there along with College Park Planning Director Terry Schum and Bob DiPietro and Matt Latin of Petrie Ross Ventures. Dernoga was particularly concerned about the building heights.

He said the approved Conceptual Site Plan limits building heights to 12 stories, particularly for buildings close to the station.



Greenbelters were saddened to hear of the death of former Greenbelter Hazel M. Sides. Our sympathy to her family.

Our condolences to the Fred Ford family. Fred and his late wife Mary lived in the 55 Court of Ridge Road for many years. He is survived by daughter Crystal and son Rick. In addition to his wife, son Gary preceded him in death. A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. on March 24, 2007, at Mowatt Methodist Church, 40 Ridge Road.

Congratulations to:

- the following Greenbelters who graduated from TESST College of Technology in Beltsville on February 22: Joseph Fleurival who received an Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice, Tywanna Dixon with a certificate in computer business management, Walter Perez who received a certificate in network information technology and Derrec Croom who received certification as an electrician.
- Karen Yoho who had two household hints appear in “Hints from Heloise” in the February 20 issue of The Washington Post. One of her hints was to use a tall, hanging shoe holder in the pantry closet to put her young daughter’s snacks where they are available to help her pack each school lunch bag. The other hint is to break up spaghetti by bending the box it comes in to prevent the spaghetti from going every which way.
- the students of Magnolia Elementary School who made the final cut to become semi-

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company of adult performers dedicated to bringing theater to young audiences.

CTA is the oldest and largest theater group in Maryland for young people. Founded by Isabel Burger in 1943, the group has over 60 years of experience in theater for young people. Over the past 32 years, they have presented theater on tour with over 150 productions and 7,000 performances to more than a million young people in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Ceramics Galore

The show in the Community Center Art Gallery through March 15 is the “Clay Buffet” exhibit of contemporary ceramics created by local artists. Each of them is part of the upcoming “Empty Bowls” project which will raise funds for Help by Phone, a local charitable organization. The exhibit and the event are both sponsored in part by Greenbelt Pottery, Inc. Tickets for the Empty Bowls event on March 10 at the Community Church will be on sale during Artful Afternoon.

finalists in the last quarter finals competition of Prince George’s County Public Schools 21st Science Bowl. The winner will join Glenarden Woods, University Park and James McHenry Elementary Schools for the final elementary competition on March 28.

The happiest of birthdays to Emory Harman, whose 90th birthday was feted at the American Legion Wednesday night and to Florence Holly, celebrating 98 years on Sunday, March 4.

Open Studios

On the first Sunday of each month from 1 to 5 p.m. in the Community Center the third floor art studios open to give art fans of all ages the opportunity to talk to the artists-in-residence as they demonstrate their work. Scattered throughout the Community Center are whimsical sculpture displays that were created by community members at previous events.

The monthly Artful Afternoons are sponsored by the City of Greenbelt with support from the Maryland State Arts Council, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, the Prince George’s Arts Council and the P.G. Super Circle. For additional information visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/ARTS or contact Barbara Dickey Davis at 240-542-2062.

Museum Open

On Artful Afternoons and Sundays in general, from 1 to 5 p.m., the public may also tour the historic 1930s home operated by the Greenbelt Museum. The home is at 10-B Crescent Road.

Artful Afternoon Program Nominated

The City of Greenbelt has entered the Artful Afternoon program in the Maryland Municipal League’s Award for Excellence Competition. City Manager Michael McLaughlin gives kudos to Nicole DeWald, arts supervisor, for the program and for submitting the entry.

What do you think? Let us know with a Letter to the Editor.

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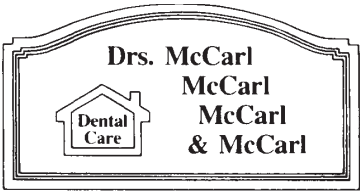


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Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department. Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Arrests

February 17, 12:46 p.m., 5500 block of Cherrywood Lane, two nonresident men were arrested and charged with theft and one was charged with second-degree assault. A man was in the process of sending money via Western Union when the two men allegedly distracted him and took his money from the counter. Both men then fled on foot. A friend of the victim chased after them, at which time one of the fleeing men turned and punched the friend. A police officer observed the foot chase and arrested the two men. The man charged only with theft was released on citation pending trial. The other man was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a District Court commissioner.

February 18, 5:01 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Drive, two Greenbelt youths, ages 11 and 12, were arrested and charged with malicious destruction. The youths were observed breaking out two windows in a vacant apartment with a fire extinguisher then fled the scene. Police located the youths a short time later and they were positively identified by a witness. The two were released pending action by the Juvenile Justice System.

February 16, 6200 block of Breezewood Drive, a woman was arrested for possession of a stolen vehicle tag. Her parked, unoccupied vehicle was involved in an accident. When she arrived to move the vehicle she was arrested after a police computer check revealed that the tag on her vehicle was reported stolen to the Maryland State Police. She was released on citation pending trial.

February 17, 5800 block of Cherrywood Lane, an officer observed a suspicious unoccupied vehicle. A computer check revealed that the tags on the vehicle had been reported stolen to the Prince George's County police. A 17-year-old Greenbelt youth arrived on the scene and claimed ownership of the vehicle and the reported stolen tags. The youth was charged with theft and released on citation pending trial.

Robbery

February 20, 1:14 a.m. 6000 block Greenbelt Road, a taxi

driver reported that he was in the Beltway Plaza parking lot when a man approached him on foot, displayed a handgun and demanded money. The driver told the robber that there was a camera in the cab and the robber fled to an awaiting vehicle which then drove off.

The robber is described as a black male, 5'10", 160 pounds, wearing a black hooded sweat-shirt and a jacket. The vehicle in which he fled was described as a silver Mercury Marquis bearing unknown Virginia tags. There is no description of the vehicle's driver.

Burglary

February 22, 3:51 p.m., 7900 block Green Walk Court, unknown person(s) entered a residence by forcing the rear basement door. Money, jewelry and a laptop computer were taken.

Vehicle Crimes

The following vehicles were reported stolen: a gold 1996 Plymouth Grand Voyager, Maryland tags 022M557 from the 7500 block of Hanover Parkway; a blue 1997 Dodge Caravan, Maryland tags 014M921 from the Youth Center parking lot; a white 1997 4-door Dodge, Maryland tags 5AJE94 from the 6000 block of Greenbelt Road; a beige 1997 4-door Ford Crown Victoria, Maryland tags 2CEC01 from the 6000 block of Springhill Drive; and a maroon 2000 Dodge Caravan, Maryland tags 808M948 from the 9100 block of Edmonston Road.

One vehicle reported stolen from the unit block of Westway was recovered two days later in the area of Morrison and Frankfort Drives. Six other vehicles stolen in Greenbelt were recovered during the week, one by Greenbelt police, four by the county police and one by the Metropolitan Police Department. No arrests were made.

Attempted theft of, vandalism to and theft from vehicles were reported in the following areas: 5900 block of Cherrywood Terrace (two incidents), 9100 block of Springhill Lane, 9300 block of Edmonston Road, 6400 block of Ivy Lane, 6500 block of Capitol Drive, 100 block of Westway, Parkway, 5 Court Eastway, 11 Court Laurel Hill, 7 Court of Hillside, 7200 block of Hanover Drive and 8300 block of Canning Terrace.

Red Light Camera Program

by James Giese

Motorists are more apt to be cited for redlight camera violations on Fridays. The peak time for redlight violations is between 3 and 4 p.m. The seven Greenbelt locations at which cameras have been placed average 9.53 citations per day. These and many other statistics are provided in a Year End 2006 report prepared by Greenbelt Police Corporal Maria Parker.

The camera program is experiencing a downward trend while the other partner jurisdictions are experiencing increases, Parker reports. For some jurisdictions, slight increases are due to transitioning to use of digital cameras, something that the city has been doing during the past year. Other jurisdictional increases result from converting traffic signal bulbs from incandescent to LED bulbs, something that is to be done in Greenbelt.

The location where a redlight camera is most apt to catch violators is Cherrywood Lane for those traveling in the westbound lanes of Greenbelt Road. There were 819 violations during 2006. However, northbound drivers on Kenilworth Avenue went through the redlight at the off ramp for southbound I-95 almost as frequently, Parker reports.

Four intersections did not have working cameras from March through May due to being transitioned from wet film to digital technology. While the change was done timely, there was a

long wait for re-hookup of power by the State Highway Administration.

LED Bulbs

Because of a millisecond delay between when power changes from a yellow to red in a traffic signal equipped with incandescent bulbs, some violators can not be prosecuted, even though the human eye cannot detect the delay. The company which monitors the city's redlight cameras and issues the notices of violation finds it to be in their interest to convert these traffic signals by replacing the incandescent bulbs with LED lights at their own expense. Agreement has now been reached with the State Highway Administration and conversion has already begun. It is expected to take several months to complete.

Lasercraft charges are based upon the volume of cameras they have in operation among the partnered jurisdiction. Parker reports that the Montgomery Police have pulled out of the partnership and will do their own camera monitoring. Parker expects Greenbelt fees to be raised.

Other locations at which cameras are placed are: eastbound Greenbelt Road at Hanover Parkway and also at Mandan Road, northbound Cherrywood Lane at Kenilworth Avenue, northbound Kenilworth at the off ramp for northbound I-95, and westbound Greenbelt Road at Mandan Road. An eighth location is being sought. Lasercraft is doing video surveys to determine the most suitable location.

Healey Seeks Closure Of Tax Loophole

Delegate Anne Healey has introduced HB 475-Public School Construction Assistance Act of 2007 in the current Maryland legislative session.

Passage of the bill would help get children out of temporary classrooms. If the measure is signed into law, it could provide nearly \$60 million a year to help pay for new public schools and renovate others by closing a loophole used by big corporations to avoid paying certain taxes.

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For most people, transfer taxes are noticed only when it is time to sell a home. State and county governments levy the tax every time real estate changes hands. It is a price property owners pay unless one is a savvy corporation, according to Healey. In that case, one can sell a multimillion-dollar shopping mall or high-rise office building without paying any transfer tax.

In order to minimize the effect of the legislation on the state's small business community, the legislation applies only to corporations whose property is valued at one million dollars or more.



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CONSERVE continued from page 1

from \$1.50 per square foot of woodland destroyed to \$5 per square foot. It was noted that Montgomery County uses a fine of \$9 per square foot for similar occurrences. The city's response to the county suggests increasing the fine in Prince George's County to \$9 also.

To make fee-in-lieu a last resort in addressing mitigation requirements, the city recommends raising the fee-in-lieu from the proposed 50 cents (currently 30 cents) per square foot to equal the 90 cents per square foot that Montgomery County charges.

Changes to existing subdivision regulations would increase the minimum stream buffer width from 50 to 75 feet in the Developing and Rural Tiers as recommended in the plan. The plan calls for stream buffer widths of 50 feet in the Developed Tier, where Greenbelt is located. Hruby explained as the reason for the lower limit in the Developed Tier, the county's emphasis on maximizing development where it is already concentrated.

Council's Concerns

Increasing the minimum stream buffer width to 75 feet in all tiers was one recommendation made by the city in its formal response to a draft of the Green Infrastructure Master Plan back in February 2005. At that time, council supported most of the plan but took issue with standards to be applied in the developed tier.

The city's 2005 letter to the county called it "ironic" that parcels included within the Developed Tier "are given special consideration when defining countywide significance due to their scarcity, importance and

function but when setting forth implementation strategies these same resources are being held to a lower standard in terms of acceptable levels of impact."

Council continues to maintain the same position in 2007 and "strongly urges" the county to consider holding the developed tier to an even higher standard than the other tiers due to the aforesaid "special consideration" the plan gives to environmental resources in the developed tier.

The city went on record in its 2007 response to support a recommendation by the City of Bowie to credit park trees and street trees for off-site tree mitigation when a municipality has a tree planting program for public land.

Council stood by its 2005

challenge to the county to improve water quality in each major watershed by 2025 by two ratings rather than the one rating called for in the plan.

Councilmember Leta Mach recommended in 2005 that the county provide assistance to localities without planning departments in developing their own conservation plans. She reiterated this request at council's last meeting.

Councilmembers expressed continued interest in promoting their original recommendations that had not been acted upon in the finalized plan, although the plan itself is not under revision at this time. A copy of the city's 2005 letter was attached to the city's comments on current legislative updates.



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Planetarium Offers Pre-K Program

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There is a fee, reduced for students and seniors. The Science Center is at 9601 Greenbelt Road. For more information call 301-918-8750 during school hours.

Botanic Garden Hosts Pruning Lecture

On Friday, March 9 from noon to 1 p.m., "Pruning Basics" will be presented by Greenbelter Shaun Abell of the U.S. Botanic Gardens. Late winter to early spring is the best time of year to prune many plants in temperate landscapes. Join the discussion of pruning techniques. Topics include tool selection, pruning cuts, encouraging well-formed trees and shrubs, identifying biotic and abiotic problems that require pruning, plant reaction to pruning and timing pruning for the best effects. This presentation is free; to pre-register call 202-225-8333.



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Three bedroom frame unit with a side-by-side refrigerator, new vinyl floor in the kitchen, washer, dryer, open staircase, built-in microwave, two built-in air conditioners, and much more.
\$200,000 Exclusive Listing.

11-J Laurel Hill

NEW LISTING

Two bedroom frame unit with new wall-to-wall carpeting, new vinyl kitchen floor, dishwasher, freshly painted, washer/dryer, remodeled bathroom, fenced yards, and much more.
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For a Few Hours, It Was a Winter Wonderland

Unexpected accumulation of moist heavy snow set the stage for some beautiful snapshots around town last weekend. Greenbelt photographers were out and about and shared some of their best with the News Review.



The Mother and Child Statue in Roosevelt Center is a favorite landmark. The trees provide a frozen canopy that arches over the walkway. As the day wore on and before all of the snow had even fallen from the limbs, Public Works crews were busy shoveling sidewalks. Photos by Monique Jezierski



The Community Center was also blanketed with snow.



Swift Team
The team of scientists on the Swift satellite mission led by Goddard scientist Dr. Neil Gehrels was awarded the Bruno Rossi Prize. This annual award is given by the High Energy Astrophysics Division of the American Astrophysics Society (AAS) in recognition of significant contributions as well as recent and original work in high-energy astrophysics.
The Swift satellite, launched late in 2004, was named for the bird which catches its prey on the fly. Swift’s “prey” are gamma-ray bursts (GRBs), powerful cosmic explosions which astronomers think mark the birth of black holes. Swift was designed to rapidly detect, locate and observe them and has detected over 200 GRBs. GRBs were first observed in the 1960s and remained mysterious until the mid-1990s.
“This is a great recognition of all the wonderful science coming from Swift and the years of hard work that the team has done to make it possible,” said Gehrels. “Swift is a remarkable machine which is still going strong. We expect even more great things from it over the coming years.”



Dr. Neil Gehrels

Space Science Awards Go to Goddard Staffers

There has been a lot of activity in space science lately, especially in the area of receiving awards at NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC).



Amber Straughn

Grad Student Award
Amber Straughn was a summer student working at Goddard in 2006. During the recent AAS annual meeting Straughn won the Chambliss Award for a poster at a meeting by a graduate student.
“I am honored to have received the Chambliss Award,” Straughn said. “In addition to my research, I have a passion for outreach and education and I hope that I am always able to effectively convey my science to others, which I believe is what this award is about.”
Straughn is a NASA Jenkins Predoctoral Fellow and is a student at Arizona State University. Straughn plans to complete her Ph.D. in May 2008 and take a postdoctoral position in observational cosmology with an emphasis on education and outreach.

Astronomers Award
Dr. Ann Hornschemeier (Cardiff), scientist at NASA Goddard and adjunct faculty member at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, was recently awarded the Annie Jump Cannon Award for her research in astronomy and astrophysics. The Annie Jump Cannon Award is given for outstanding research and promise for future research by a postdoctoral woman researcher.
Hornschemeier’s award was for her research on X-ray emission from normal galaxies.
She learned of her award from Dr. Craig Wheeler, current president of the AAS, and is thrilled by the honor. She will be awarded the prize and will give a prize lecture at the May meeting of the AAS in Honolulu.



Dr. Ann Hornschemeier



John Mather

Robinson Prize
Nobel Prize winner and NASA Goddard Astrophysicist John Mather was selected for the Robinson Prize in Cosmology given by the University of Newcastle in England to honor a scholar of distinction in cosmology. The recipient gives a public lecture and seminars to students. Mather’s prize lecture is scheduled for the fall of 2008.
Mather said, “I am delighted that the work of the COBE team has been recognized by the Robinson Prize and I look forward to future amazing discoveries about the Big Bang.”

Alumni Recognition
Dr. Kimberly Weaver recently received an Alumni Recognition Award from the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences at West Virginia University. Established in 1998, this award acknowledges college alumni who have made important contributions to their field, who demonstrate the value of lifelong learning and whose lives reflect the diversity of a liberal arts and sciences education. Weaver will accept the award this month on the campus in her hometown of Morgantown, W.Va., and will give a keynote address.



Dr. Kimberly Weaver

GSFC Scientists
Nicholas White, director of the Astrophysics Science Division (ASD) at Goddard said, “This has been an outstanding year of recognition for ASD scientists. These awards also testify to the quality of scientists we have at GSFC!”

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